## **MESSAGE FROM THE CORPS CHIEF: Hurricane Florence**

Dental Colleagues,

Two weeks ago, Hurricane Florence came ashore on the east coast causing severe and extensive damage in the Carolinas. For those who may not know, Camp Lejeune experienced the brunt of this hurricane causing a catastrophic loss to three of their primary dental treatment facilities consisting of 31 dental operatories. It is also possible the command could lose another 26 operatories if another clinic is deemed structurally unsafe. I am so thankful we did not lose any of our shipmates during this catastrophic event, but we do have several colleagues who have lost homes and many of their belongings.

I want to extend a huge BRAVO ZULU to those on duty during the hurricane, because they were first on scene, responsible for moving dental records and salvaging numerous resources from further water damage. In addition, the duty crew extended their assistance to the community by helping stranded families to safety. Your actions clearly demonstrated that you are all part of a team that states as its bottom line, "I will be there when you need me." I am so proud of all of your efforts.

I want to personally thank the Commanding Officer, CAPT Trent Outhouse, and the Executive Officer, CAPT Joe Dehoogh, for their tremendous leadership during this very challenging time. I also want to thank every command member at 2nd Dental Battalion/Naval Dental Center for the sacrifices you are currently enduring. You are not in this alone and the thoughts and prayers of the entire Navy Dental Corps are with you and your families during this rebuilding time.

G.D. SHAFFER